and overall power. demand. Buy back and safe disposal of fused CFLs is part of a proposed scheme of the BEE entitled "Bachat Lamp Yojana" (BLY) to promote CFLs.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests has constituted a Task Force to deal with issues relating to management of mercury in CFLs.

Under Rule 5 of the Customs Tariff (Identification, Assessment and Collection of Anti-Dumping Duty on Dumped Articles and for Determination of Injury) Rules, 1995, anti-dumping investigations are initiated by Designated Authority after examining the accuracy and adequacy of the evidence provided in the petition and after satisfying that there is sufficient evidence regarding dumping, injury and a casual link between dumped imports and alleged injury to justify the initiation. As regards the anti-dumping investigation relating to imports of CFLs from China PR, an investigation had been initiated and definitive duty imposed which expired in December, 2006. Rule 5 of the Anti-Dumping Rules allows the domestic industry to file a petition for fresh anti-dumping duty, if and when the need arises.

**Protection and purifications of Indian rivers**

483. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in Northern India, rivers like Ganga and Yamuna only are polluted fully;

(b) if so, whether Central and Southern Indian rivers, *viz.*, Narmada, Tapti, Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, Cauvery and Pennar are also polluted in the country;

(c) if so, the action which is being taken by Union Government for their protection and purification; and

(d) the outcome of such actions, and if not, the reasons therefor and how far it shall have adverse effect on the human beings, animals and birds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) The Ganga Action Plan (GAP) has been implemented, since its inception in 1985, in phases by the Government of India, taking up the pollution abatement works in the river Ganga in the polluted stretches identified by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) with the objective of improving the water quality. Besides Ganga, its major tributaries namely, Yamuna, Gomti, Damodar and Mahananda are included under the GAP for pollution abatement works. A total of sewage treatment capacity of 1747 mld. has been created so far for Ganga and its above tributaries. With the pollution abatement works completed so far in both the phases under GAP, the water quality of the river Ganga has shown improvement at major locations over its pre-GAP quality as per the water quality monitoring undertaken by independent reputed institutions of the country. As regards Yamuna, the tributary of Ganga, the quality of river water has not shown the desired improvement owing to the large gap between the demand and the availability of the sewage treatment capacity particularly in Delhi, and lack of availability of fresh water for ensuring minimum flow in the river.

The programme was broad based in 1995 and renamed as the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) which covers 160 towns along identified polluted

stretches of 34 major rivers spread over 20 States at an approved cost of Rs. 4783 crore. The Narmada, Tapti, Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, Cauvery and Pennar are among the rivers included in the NRCP. The sanctioned cost of the pollution abatement works and expenditure by States in the rivers under NRCP as on 31st March, 2007 are given in the Statement (*See* below). As sewage constitutes the major pollution load of rivers, Interception and Diversion of Sewage (I&D) and creation of Sewage Treatment facilities form part of the core works under the Plan. Besides the above, works on River Front Development, Improved Crematoria, Public Awareness Programme etc. are also undertaken. The pollution abatement activities go towards mitigating the pollution loads reaching the rivers thereby ameliorating the water quality in rivers.

***Statement***

*State-wise details of rivers covered under National River Conservation Plan (As on* 31.03.2007)

(Rs. in crores)

| Sl. No. | Name of State | Name of River | Sanctioned Cost | Expenditure by State |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | Godavari and Musi | 367.51 | 133.88 |
| 2 | Bihar | Ganga | 3.95 | 2.98 |
| 3 | Delhi | Yamuna | 333.34 | 160.70 |
| 4 | Goa | Mandovi | 14.10 | 10.92 |
| 5 | Gujarat | Sabarmati | 101.96 | 95.08 |
| 6 | Haryana | Yamuna | 255.08 | 253.92 |
| 7 | Jharkhand | Subarnarekha<br>Damodar and<br>Ganga | 4.38 | 1.46 |
| 8 | Karnataka | Bhadra<br>Tungabhadra,<br>Cauv-ery, Tunga and<br>Pennar | 66.35 | 52.32 |
| 9 | Kerala | Pamba | 18.45 | 11.34 |
| 10 | Madhya Pradesh | Betwa, Tapti,<br>Wainganga, Khan,<br>Narmada, Chambal and<br>Kshipra | 75.35 | 68.52 |
| 11 | Mahrashtra | Godavari & Krishna | 115.87 | 100.04 |
| 12 | Nagaland | Diphu-Dhansiri | 31.74 | 4.85 |
| 13 | Orissa | Brahmini & Mahanadi | 60.33 | 37.59 |
| 14 | Punjab | Sutlej | 215.68 | 242.08 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 15 | Rajasthan | Chambal | 1.36 | 0.77 |
| 16 | Sikkim | Rani Chu | 15.81 | 8.13 |
| 17 | Tamil Nadu | Cauvery, Adyar, Cooum, Vennar, Vaigai and Tamrabarani | 868.64 | 734.24 |
| 18 | Uttar Pradesh | Ganga, Yamuna and Gomti | 887.68 | 472.26 |
| 19 | Uttranchal | Ganga | 70.62 | 16.63 |
| 20 | West Bengal | Ganga, Damodar and Mahananda | 297.37 | 155.40 |

**Reducing high level of mercury containment**

484. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that high levels of mercury is found in the air and most particularly in hospitals which threatens the health of patients and medical staff;

(b) whether it is also a fact that USA has come forward to help our country to reduce such high levels of mercury containment; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The Bio-Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 1998 and the subsequent amendments thereof, do not prescribe any emission limits for mercury from bio-medical waste incinerators. The National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for various areas including sensitive areas like hospitals, also do not cover mercury.

Improper handling and accidental breakage of instruments containing mercury can cause pollution.

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has requested all State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Poliution Control Committees (PPCs) of Union Territories that mercury spillage/losses in healthcare facilities need to be given proper attention not only in respect of collection of the spilled mercury, its storage and sending the same back to the manufacturers, but also for taking all necessary measures to ensure that the spilled waste generated from the healthcare facilities is taken care for its proper disposal. Further, the Schedule-II of Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2003 provide that any waste containing equal to or greater than 50 ppm of mercury in it is a hazardous waste and the concerned generators of such waste, including healthcare facilities, are required to dispose the same as per the Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2003.

No ill effects of mercury in any Central Government Hospitals have come to the notice of the Government.